



## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

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CONTACT: Lt.Cdr. Tamsen Reese  
O: 212.784-0131 / C: 646-533-8259 / E: tamsen.reese@navy.mil

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **FLEET WEEK SHIPS TO EMBARK STARS OF INTERNATIONAL FIGHT LEAGUE**

**NEW YORK, NY** – Sailors and Marines in U.S. Navy ships transiting to New York City for the 20<sup>th</sup> Fleet Week New York will have some very special shipmates as stars of the International Fight League (IFL) will be taking the opportunity to meet, thank, and entertain the servicemen and women.

“IFL Battleground” host Tiffany Fallon and IFL coaches and athletes, including New York Pitbulls coach Renzo Gracie, undefeated heavyweight Ben Rothwell of the Quad Cities Silverbacks and military veterans Mark Miller of the Chicago Red Bears and Josh Odom and Brian Foster of the San Jose Razorclaws, will embark the ships and partake in everyday life with the crew. In addition to visiting work spaces and holding special meet-and-greet events, the IFL stars will also demonstrate some self-defense techniques for all those on board.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to show our support for our troops and thank them for their service in their own environment, on board ship, as they transit to Fleet Week New York. We feel honored to do so,” said Kurt Otto, co-founder and commissioner of the New York headquartered IFL.

Sailors and Marines may have the opportunity to become stars of sorts themselves, as “IFL Battleground” cameras will also be on board to record the events for the show, which airs nationally on MyNetworkTV.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Fleet Week New York takes place from May 23 through May 30, 2007 Hosted nearly every year since 1984, Fleet Week New York is the City’s celebration of the sea services. This event also provides an opportunity for the citizens of New York City and the surrounding Tri-State area to meet Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, as well as witness first-hand the latest capabilities of today’s maritime services. Fleet Week includes dozens of military demonstrations and displays throughout the city, and offers the public the opportunity to tour many of the participating ships.

For more information about Fleet Week New York City, visit: [www.fleetweek.navy.mil](http://www.fleetweek.navy.mil).

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